

Annual List of Rule-Making Activity
Rules Adopted January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014
Prepared by the Secretary of State, pursuant to 5 MRSA, §8053-A, sub-§5

Agency name: Maine Educational Loan Authority
Umbrella-Unit: **94-434**
Statutory authority: 20-A MRSA §11417(1)(N)
Chapter number/title: **Ch. 1**, Supplemental Education Loan Program Rules
Filing number: **2014-135**
Effective date: 7/5/2014
Type of rule: Routine Technical
Emergency rule: No

Principal reason or purpose for rule:

This rule-making amends the “Supplemental Education Loan Program Rules” to make revisions to the repayment terms for the Authority's regular loan programs and to the underwriting criteria for the consolidation loan program. The amendment: (1) expands the repayment term options to include immediate repayment of principal and interest, interest only payments, and full deferment of principal and interest for the Authority's regular loan programs; and (2) modifies the minimum annual income from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the consolidation loan program to reflect current market conditions.

Basis statement:

This amends the “Supplemental Education Loan Program Rules” to make revisions to the repayment terms for the Authority's regular loan programs and to the underwriting criteria for the consolidation loan program. The rule amendment: (1) expands the repayment term options to include immediate repayment of principal and interest, interest only payments, and full deferment of principal and interest for the Authority's regular loan programs; and (2) modifies the minimum annual income from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the consolidation loan program to reflect current market conditions. MELA believes the amended Program Rules to offer multiple repayment term options will provide Maine students and their families with increased flexibility for repaying their education loans.

Fiscal impact of rule:

This rule will not have a fiscal impact on municipalities or counties.